

6  
EVERETT CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

**PROJECT TITLE:**

A Resolution adopting the  
South Everett Forest Preserve  
Master Plan

☒ Briefing  
☐ Proposed Action  
☐ Consent  
☒ Action  
☐ First Reading  
☐ Second Reading  
☐ Third Reading  
☒ Public Hearing  
☐ Budget Advisory

COUNCIL BILL #

Originating Department Parks

Contact Person Paul Kaftanski

Phone Number 425-257-8335

FOR AGENDA OF September 23, 2015

Initialed by:

Department Head

CAA

Council President

*db*

<u>Location</u>	<u>Preceding Action</u>	<u>Attachments</u>	<u>Department(s) Approval</u>
East of 1019 109 <sup>th</sup> Drive, SE and west of Interurban Trail	Council approval of Master Planning PSA – November 12, 2104	Resolution, Board of Park Commissioner Minutes, Master Plan	Parks, Administration

Amount Budgeted	N/A	
Expenditure Required	N/A	
Budget Remaining	N/A	
Additional Required	N/A	

**DETAILED SUMMARY STATEMENT:**

The Parks and Recreation Department has completed development of a master plan for the newly named South Everett Forest Preserve (Preserve). The Preserve is located in the Twin Creeks neighborhood, approximately ¼ mile north of Thornton A. Sullivan (TAS) Park and adjacent to the west side of the Interurban Trail. Adoption of a resolution for the Preserve is the next step required of the City to satisfy federal and state requirements regarding the conversion of park property at TAS Park for non-park purposes.

Once adopted, design of the master plan recommendations will be finalized. Improvements must be constructed by June 26, 2016, per Amendment No. 4 to the TAS Park funding agreement, approved by City Council on September 11, 2013. The improvements include benches, picnic area, trash receptacle, wetland boardwalk, approximately 1,600 linear foot trail system, an ADA accessible trial loop and entrance trailhead.

The Master Plan summarizes the public dialogue and actions regarding this project since 1979 when the City entered into an agreement with the State of Washington to help fund improvements at TAS Park. The Board of Park Commissioners voted to recommend master plan approval to the City Council at its July 14, 2015 meeting. A final Mitigated Determination of Non-Significance (SEPA 15-025) was issued on September 1, 2015.

**RECOMMENDATION (Exact action requested of Council):**

Adopt a resolution adopting the South Everett Forest Preserve Master Plan.



**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

**A RESOLUTION** adopting the South Everett Forest Preserve Master Plan

**WHEREAS**, the Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan identifies a need to prepare master plans for all park properties; and

**WHEREAS**, to address conversion of park property to non-park use at Thornton A. Sullivan Park, the City has agreed to develop park improvements on park property near Thornton A. Sullivan Park; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2008, the City purchased 15.06 acres for the purpose of parks and open space development that was formally named the "South Everett Forest Preserve" by City Council on June 17, 2015; and

**WHEREAS**, City Council approved Ordinance No. 1201-08 that created a special improvement project entitled "Parks Conversion Planning;" and

**WHEREAS**, the result of the Parks Conversion Planning work resulted in the approval by the National Park Service that the southern 3.5 acres of the South Everett Forest Preserve would be developed with passive recreation amenities to satisfy the conversion requirements related to Thornton A. Sullivan Park; and

**WHEREAS**, City Council, on September 11, 2013, codified the National Park Service approval by authorizing the Mayor to enter into Amendment No. 4 to the funding agreement for Thornton A. Sullivan Park requiring that park improvements be made on the southern 3.5 acres of the South Everett Forest Preserve by June 26, 2016; and

**WHEREAS**, the next phase of the conversion process was the development of a master plan for the South Everett Forest Preserve; and

**WHEREAS**, public involvement helped to develop the South Everett Forest Preserve Master Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Park Commissioners reviewed and discussed a draft master plan at its regularly scheduled meeting on April 14, 2015; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Park Commissioners reviewed and unanimously recommended to the City Council approval of a final master plan at its regularly scheduled meeting on July 14, 2015; and

**WHEREAS**, a State Environmental Policy Act analysis (SEPA 15-025) was conducted on the recommended master plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Everett Planning and Community Development Department issued a Final Mitigated Determination of Non-Significance on September 1, 2015 for the recommended master plan;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Everett City Council:**

- 1) Hereby adopts the South Everett Forest Preserve Master Plan.
- 2) The Everett Parks and Recreation Department is authorized to re-format the South Everett Forest Preserve Master Plan as necessary to ensure consistency with requirements of any federal, state or local governmental agency related to the Department's eligibility to submit and receive grant funding awards.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilperson Introducing Resolution

**PASSED AND APPROVED** this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2015

\_\_\_\_\_  
Council President



CITY OF EVERETT  
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
July 14, 2015  
6:00 P.M.  
Spruce Hall

Chair Gary Allen called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Roll Call

Present: Gary Allen, Joel Taylor, Michael Swanson, Marcia Isenberg, Ryan Taylor and Marilyn Boe.

Not present: Tina Hokanson

Council Liaison Brenda Stonecipher was not present.

Staff present: Paul Kaftanski, John Petersen, Lori Cummings, Jeff Price, Robert (Bob) Hillmann and Sue Stimson.

Adoption of Meeting Agenda

Michael motioned to adopt the agenda as amended, moving the Recommendation item to immediately follow Roll Call. Seconded by Ryan. All approved.

Recommendation

South Everett Forest Preserve Master Plan

John Petersen gave an overview of the project, including a brief historical summary, beginning with the conversion of park land at Thornton A. Sullivan Park to non-park use. John summarized the recommended program elements contained in the proposed master plan. This included the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process and State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) requirements for this project. He reviewed the presentations to date and timeline for improvements to be in place by June, 2016.

Commissioner Allen asked what the park hours are expected to be. John explained that hours will be determined later and is not part of the master plan. City Code allows the director to set park hours. Citizen concerns have been recognized and are appreciated.

Commissioner Swanson stated this plan is awesome. He is concerned about access and parking for those from outside the area. Bob Hillmann explained that as a neighborhood park, the amenities for this location are proposed to be consistent with neighborhood use as opposed to being a "draw" for people from a longer distance away from the park. As a result, onsite parking is not included in this plan. Restrooms are not included. Trash cans, a picnic table and benches will be provided.

Paul Kaftanski added that the hierarchy of parks includes design standards adopted by council (as part of the department's comprehensive plan). The standards for local parks is not to provide off-site parking for neighborhood parks, except due to unusual circumstances. The Preserve will be managed as a local neighborhood park. Programmed access to and from the Interurban Trail is not included.



Commissioner Joel Taylor asked about the department's ability to maintain the site once it is developed. John Petersen replied that the department will be able to maintain the site given its proximity to the Interurban Trail and the ability to leverage staff resources when staff is providing regular maintenance for the trail in the park's vicinity.

Citizen comments: Jerry Olsen, 10731 9<sup>th</sup> Drive—does not want people parking in his front yard and asked about the park's likely impact on property values. John explained that park industry research indicates that generally, there is usually a positive impact to homeowner property valuation.

Heidi Noe, 704 105<sup>th</sup> Pl. SE—asked for a clarification of planned amenities—Bob Hillmann described the concrete trail head, concrete picnic table, trail access via gravel surface and wood chip base trails. Ms. Noe asked about transient activity. Bob explained that regular maintenance by park staff will assist in discouraging negative activity.

Commissioner Joel Taylor asked if police would be tasked to monitor this location once the project is completed. Paul explained the protocol is for park rangers to monitor park areas and then contact police if assistance is indicated. Citizen concerns regarding illegal parking (as opposed to vehicles legally parked on public right of way) can be addressed by the City as necessary.

Commissioner Swanson asked for clarification regarding the decision to discourage a connection with the Interurban Trail. Paul explained a designated connection could encumber property (the trail) that the city does not own. (It is owned by the Snohomish County Public Utility District.) Only 3.5 acres of the total 15 acres is addressed by National Park Service requirements to address the conversion of parkland at Thornton A. Sullivan Park. A woody vegetative barrier will be included to discourage this access. Signage will include standard park signage and hours.

Commissioner Taylor motioned to recommend that city council adopt the master plan as presented; seconded by Michael. All approved.

Paul explained this item will go forward to council once the SEPA checklist is complete.

#### Acceptance of Minutes

Michael motioned to accept the minutes of June 9<sup>th</sup>; seconded by Marilyn. All approved.

#### Member Reports

Ryan—very pleased with the Sorticulture event; very well done and well managed.

Marilyn—enjoying several parks this summer including a recent visit to Silver Lake.

Joel—Now that the master plan is recommended to go forward to city council, very interested to watch the development at the South Everett Forest Preserve.

Michael—Enjoying various parks and the swim center with family.

Gary—Compliments to all for the events of July 4<sup>th</sup> and the Silvertips hockey at Clark Park. He has heard that crime in parks appears to be on the increase. John observed that staff sometimes sees evidence of crime such as encampments needles but is unaware of a general crime increase or spiking.

Marcia—noticed improved maintenance of, and lots of neighborhood use at Kiwanis Park.

#### Parks Director Comments

Paul noted that this year's Green Everett Day volunteer event is October 17<sup>th</sup> at Forest Park. Contact Jeff Price if interested. The July 28<sup>th</sup> park board workshop for the comprehensive plan update will focus on our system's park inventory. The department's revenue budget for 2016 has been submitted to administration. Kyle Christensen, a seasonal ranger received recognition from administration after facilitating a CPR and crowd control incident in a near drowning at Silver Lake. Barry Martin, Recreation Coordinator, has set a retirement date of September 10<sup>th</sup>. The board's August meeting will be an on-site tour of Jackson Park.

Citizen Comments— none

#### Adoption Items

##### Community Garden Management Plan

Lori Cummings explained that volunteer outreach will commence once the garden is constructed. Plots are planned at 10ft. x 15ft. with raised beds available for those that are in need. Marcia motioned to approve the plan as submitted; seconded by Michael. All approved.

##### Parks/Open Space Business Activity Guidelines

Jeff Price highlighted updates including the legal requirement for liability language. Payments using MasterCard and Visa will be available and the timeframe for staff internal review has been reduced to five days. Marcia suggested all vendors submit to a background check. This element will be further researched and reported back to the board in the near future.

Joel motioned to adopt the Business Activity Guidelines; seconded by Michael. All approved.

##### Athletic Fields Prioritization and Scheduling Policy

Lori called attention to two edits that the board recommended at the June meeting regarding gender equity and removal of the organizational name. Michael motioned to accept the policy; seconded by Marcia. All approved.

#### Discussion items

##### Projects/Programs Highlights Q & A

Paul highlighted activity for the month of June including known citizen discussions regarding the Howarth Park pedestrian bridge since the last board meeting. A total of 405 comprehensive plan surveys have been received to date. Starting next week, staff will attempt to have selected summer program participants participate in the survey.

Other Business—Ryan asked about the current smoking policy in parks. Paul explained that a ban on smoking is not currently on the table for several reasons, including limited staff availability to enforce a ban.

Lori reminded those that volunteered for the Joe Richer golf tournament to watch for an informative e-mail.

Joel motioned to adjourn; seconded by Michael.

Adjourn @ 7:20

Next Meeting--Workshop Tuesday, July 28, 2015 Spruce Hall 6:00 PM
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**MISSION STATEMENT:**

"The Parks and Recreation mission is to bring all Everett citizens and visitors together on our common grounds and facilities. We provide a wide variety of quality recreational and park experiences that welcome everyone. We measure our success by customer satisfaction, efficiency and community development of our public spaces and recreation services that meet the values and needs of our citizens and visitors. We provide parks, play fields, recreation amenities, trails and pools that are attractive, clean, safe, and accessible."

# **Everett Parks and Recreation**

## **South Everett Forest Preserve Final Master Plan**

September 1, 2015



## ***PARKS AND RECREATION***

802 E Mukilteo Blvd., Everett WA 98203  
Office: 425-257-8300, Ext 2 M-F, 9-5



**Perfect**

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Everett, WA 98201  
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# Acknowledgements

This master plan document would not have been possible without the assistance of a significant number of individuals. We would like to thank the following people for their contributions:

## **Everett Mayor**

Ray Stephanson

## **Everett City Council**

Scott Bader (President), Position 5

Scott Murphy (Vice President), Position 3

Paul Roberts, Position 1

Jeff Moore, Position 2

Ron Gipson, Position 4

Brenda Stonecipher, Position 6

Judy Tuohy, Position 7

## **Everett Board of Park Commissioners**

Gary Allen, Chair

Marcia Isenberg, Vice Chair

Marilyn Boe

Ryan Taylor

Tina Hokanson

Michael Swanson

Joel Taylor

## **City of Everett Staff**

Gerry Ervine, Land Use Manager

Teresa Weldon, Associate Planner

## **Everett Parks and Recreation Staff**

Paul Kaftanski, Director

Lori Cummings, Assistant Director

John Petersen, Assistant Director

Jeff Price, Business Manager

Mark Harrison, Parks Planning and Capital Development Manager

Robert Hillmann, Parks Project Coordinator

Russell Dance, Parks Development Construction Supervisor

## **Consultants**

Jason Walker, Environmental and Community Planning Manager, Perteet

Erika Wittmann, Environmental Planner, Perteet

Any Yim, Planner and GIS Specialist, Perteet

## **Partners**

Joanna Nelson de Flores, Green Cities Program Director, Forterra

Kim Frappier, Restoration Ecologist, Forterra

In addition we would like to thank all members of the public and interested organizations who contributed their valuable ideas and comments.

## Introduction

The City of Everett recognizes the importance of upgrading public amenities and recreational facilities to meet current and future community needs. This master plan report is a critical early step in the process of achieving that goal. The report summarizes the planning process and makes final recommendations for future recreational development of the South Everett Forest Preserve which was previously known as the Bruskud Site. This master plan is intended to be a guide for future park development. Some aspects of the design may be modified during future design phases in response to changing community needs, adjacent land use changes, infrastructure improvements, permitting, and/or site conditions.

### History

The City of Everett Parks and Recreation Department (Everett Parks) proposes to create improved pedestrian trails and other passive recreation elements on the South Everett Forest Preserve as replacement recreation for the conversion of an area of Thornton A. Sullivan Park (Sullivan Park) to a municipal fire station. The creation of passive recreation facilities at the undeveloped South Everett Forest Preserve will compensate for recreational uses lost at Sullivan Park when a portion of that site was converted to a fire station. This mitigation is required because Sullivan Park has federal grant-protected status that stipulates that conversion of parkland to non-recreation uses requires adequate replacement of the displaced area and uses. This issue required preparation of an Environmental Assessment (**Appendix D**) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) which identified the trail improvements and other passive recreational elements to be provided on the South Everett Forest Preserve Site.

The Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) is the state administrator of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Act program in Washington State on behalf of the National Park Service (NPS). These agencies are responsible for requiring compliance with the grant protection status of recreation areas for use of federal funds for Sullivan Park and are the agencies requiring recreational improvements on the South Everett Forest Preserve as mitigation for conversion of areas of Sullivan Park to non-recreation uses.

As part of the NEPA process, the NPS formally approved the development of the southern 3.5 acre South Everett Forest Preserve for passive recreational use to serve as mitigation for the conversion of recreational areas from the Sullivan Park site to a fire station. The approval by NPS followed a required process under NEPA to include a public comment period. These actions led to City Council approval of the rezoning of the property for Park use in January 2012. This Master Plan is required as part of the City of Everett's Park and Recreation Strategic Plan prior to the final design and installation of park elements on the undeveloped South Everett Forest Preserve.

The South Everett Forest Preserve will provide an improved trail network to replace the existing pathways which have resulted from the unplanned use of foot traffic on that property. Site furnishings such as benches and an informational kiosk are planned at a new trail entry for community use.

The following summary of milestone events lists important activities that have occurred regarding the South Everett Forest Preserve:

DRAFT  
Environmental Assessment for  
Proposed Sullivan Park Fire Station Conversion

June 2012

Prepared for:  
Rod Kutzma  
Public Works Director  
City of Everett  
800 E. Washington  
Everett, Washington 98201

and  
Thatcher Agency, Forest Management  
Forest Ecology Systems, Inc./Thatcher Agency  
Cannery Avenue-Burgess  
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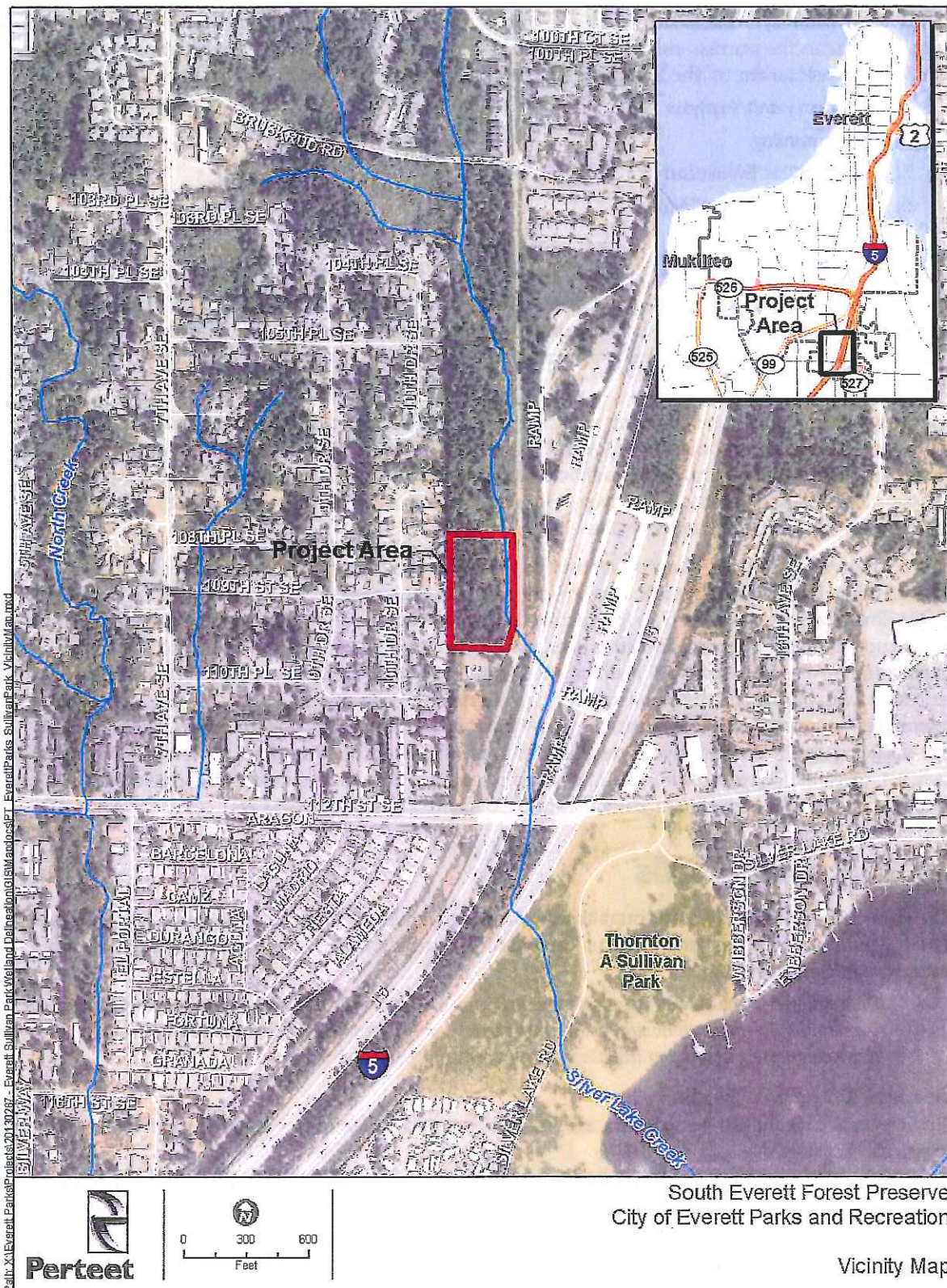
Recreational mitigation at the South Everett Forest Preserve was addressed in a NEPA Environmental Assessment for the Sullivan Park Fire Station in



Date	Milestone Event
6/3/11	Daily Herald story regarding conversion and proposed replacement parcel.
6/11	8 comments and 2 phone calls received regarding notice.
6/3/11	2 P.K. memos sent (BPC & CC) adding supplemental information to 6/3/11 Daily Herald story.
6/23/11	RCO staff presentation to RCO funding board.
6/23/11	PK delivers remarks to the RCO's Funding Board as a supplement to RCO staff's presentation.
7/11-11/11	City/RCO/NPS coordination re: NEPA preparation requirements to allow for NPS action consideration.
12/5/11	S.A. Newman submits review appraisal that confirms 4/15/11 appraisal of \$220,000 for replacement property and \$214,000 for converted property.
12/11	Negotiations with The Watershed Company to prepare conversion project NEPA EA.
12/31/11	Proposed replacement property concept plan prepared.
1/18/12	City Council public hearing and approval of Bruskud Road parcel rezone to Parks.
2/15/12	Council approves CB 1201-08, an ordinance creating a special project, entitled Parks Conversion Planning.
3/5/12	PSA effective date with The Watershed Company to prepare conversion planning environmental documentation.
3/16/12	Cultural resources assessment for conversion replacement property delivered to city.
4/13/12	Final NEPA EA "Approach Memo" delivered to the city.
6/27/12	Draft NEPA EA issued by the city.
2/20/13	City signs new 6(f) boundary map.
4/2/13	RCO submits formal conversion request to NPS with appropriate project attachments.
8/9/13	RCO approves conversion through Amendment #4 to the Sullivan Park #2 project.
9/11/13	City Council approves Amendment #4 to the Sullivan Park #2 project.
10/16/13	Bruskud Road Park parcel briefing given to Cascade View/Twin Peaks Neighborhood Association Meeting.
4/7/14	Wetland delineation report delivered to the city.
6/2/14	Bruskud Road Park Parcel project placed on Monthly Projects/Programs update for the Board of Park Commissioners.
9/9/14	Board of Park Commissioners discusses the Bruskud Road Park Parcel Project as an agenda item.
9/22/14	Project Update (intent/scope) presented to the Council of Neighborhoods.
10/1/14	Master planning and project development overview presented to the City Council.
10/20/14	Project description presented at Cascade View/ Twin Peaks Neighborhood Meeting.
4/7/15	Draft Master Plan presented and Cascade View/Twin Peaks Neighborhood Meeting.
4/14/15	Draft Master Plan presented to the Board of Park Commissioners.
6/17/15	Everett City Council approves site name change to "South Everett Forest Preserve".
Week of 7/5/15	Notices mailed to 192 citizens living adjacent to the South Everett Forest Preserve inviting them to the Park Board meeting on 7/14/15 to hear a discussion and to comment on the Draft Master Plan.
7/14/15	Park Board discussion and approval of the Draft Master Plan and recommendation to forward the Draft Master Plan to City Council for adoption.
8/5/15	Proposed Mitigated Determination of Non-Significance SEPA15-025 from City of Everett. SEPA notices signs posted on-site and mailed to 25 adjacent home owners.
8/20/15	SEPA notices removed from the site.
9/1/15	Final Mitigated Determination of Non-Significance SEPA15-025 from City of Everett.



**Figure I – Vicinity Map of South Everett Forest Preserve**



*community park facilities and attractions.”*

- *“Manage all core recreation program businesses to the highest level of productivity and efficiency. Demonstrate quality and professional management so that customers have a positive experience.”*
- *“Financially fund the Parks and Recreation System through effective use of all available revenue resources.”*
- *“Create effective partnerships to build parks, facilities and programs that maximize the community’s resources to the highest level possible through effective planning.”*

### **South Everett Forest Preserve Design Goals**

The city and the design team established the following goals specific to the master plan for the South Everett Forest Preserve at the beginning of the design process. They are intended to supplement the vision and goals outlined above and relevant to the project history.

- Develop a park that is a recreational asset to the City and the surrounding community.
- Develop a park that is cost effective and takes into consideration long-term maintenance and operation of facilities.
- Develop a park that provides a customer experience that is positive and diverse.
- Develop a park with improved safety from the existing condition that implements design strategies to aid in reducing crime.
- Develop a park that is designed to provide for a similar experience for all customer age groups and abilities.
- Develop a park that utilizes ‘green’ or environmentally sustainable design principles.
- Comply with and follow through on the requirements established by the NEPA Environmental Assessment, as well as the requirements of the State Recreation and Conservation Office and National Park Service.

### **South Everett Forest Preserve Crime Prevention Goals**

Nationally recognized crime deterrence standards known as Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) were considered and applied during the development of the master plan. CPTED incorporates four key strategies to influence offender decisions that precede criminal acts:

- Natural Surveillance – The placement of physical features to maximize visibility and create risk of detection for potential offenders.
- Natural Access Control – The natural guidance of people entering and leaving a space with placement of such elements as landscaping (including vegetated thickets) and woody debris obstructions.
- Territorial Reinforcement – Placement of elements such as signage and landscaping to communicate ownership and control of environment.
- Maintenance – Provided by the City, and with encouraged neighborhood participation, to enable continued use and control of the space with positive activities.
- Signage – The entrance area will have appropriate signage that sets park hours.

### **South Everett Forest Preserve Sustainability Goals**

At the beginning of the master planning process a list of opportunities for sustainability was derived from Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) (U.S. Green Building Council 2009) and the Sustainable Sites Initiative (American Society of Landscape Architects 2009). Many of these opportunities are incorporated into the final master plan design. Site sustainability opportunities include:

- Erosion Control – Minimize soil disturbance and utilize Best Management Practices (BMP).
- Materials Selection – Use recycled, local materials and reuse materials where feasible.



## Opportunities and Constraints

Detailed descriptions of the South Everett Forest Preserve are available in appended reports and documents, which are also available from Everett Parks. The overall property is mostly forested and flat with some undulating topography on the 3.57 acres. A wetland associated with Silver Lake Creek exists on the eastern side site. Stormwater runoff within the South Everett Forest Preserve Trail property either infiltrates within the forested areas or flows towards Silver Lake Creek along the eastern side of the site. A SEPA checklist is included in **Appendix B** and a Critical Areas Report is included in **Appendix C** that have additional information.

### Surrounding Land Uses

The South Everett Forest Preserve consists of an undeveloped parcel, which is owned by the City of Everett. A regional trail (Interurban Trail) runs north to south off-site and adjacent to the eastern edge of the South Everett Forest Preserve parcel. This regional trail is used for bicycling, walking, and jogging. There are numerous informal trails on the South Everett Forest Preserve that are used by local residents and by pedestrians who gain access from the Interurban Trail. Homeless uses and camp sites are understood to have occurred on the property in the past and this use may have been attracted by the secluded nature of the site and the inconspicuous connection to the Interurban Trail.



The site can be accessed from the residential neighborhood at the east end of 109<sup>th</sup> St SE and informal trails within the site connect to the Interurban Trail.

The built environment surrounding the project area contains a mixture of single-family residential neighborhoods and transportation corridors. The western edge of the site is bordered by residential areas, while the eastern edge is bordered by the Interurban Trail system, and west of Interstate 5 (I-5). The southern edge abuts an electrical substation operated by Snohomish County Public Utility District No. 1, and the northern edge consists of an undeveloped forested easement and lot owned by the City of Everett. Informal trails are located on the southern portion of the site and provide a connection from 109<sup>th</sup> Street SE through the site to a gravel access driveway on the PUD property to the southeast. This driveway connects to the Interurban Trail.

### Existing Conditions

The following is a summary of the existing conditions and environmental elements associated with implementing the Master Plan as stated in the Critical Areas Report (**Appendix C**) and 2012 Environmental Assessment for Proposed Sullivan Park Fire Station Conversion (**Appendix D**).

Elevations within the immediate project area are relatively flat and are approximately 477 feet above sea level. The South Everett Forest Preserve is a rectangular shaped 3.57 acre parcel with a flat but sometimes undulating ground surface that slopes gradually to the east. There are numerous informal trails crisscrossing the site that are used by the public. The South Everett Forest Preserve is zoned Public Park Zone (P).

### Earth

The topography of the site is rolling with some flatter areas. Slopes include small hills and depressions and the steepest slope is approximately 8%. Soils mapped by the US Department of Agriculture, Natural Resource Conservation Service indicate the property is covered with Alderwood-Urban land complex



No toxic chemicals or hazardous waste will occur as a result of this proposal. No special emergency services are required. Should an emergency take place, local police, fire, and medical units should be able to cover any immediate needs. No environmental health hazards are anticipated.

### **Noise**

Residential noise and related urban vehicular traffic noise exist in the area and will not affect this project. Short-term noise would consist of operating construction machinery and equipment to construct the trail and amenities during daylight hours authorized for construction by City of Everett ordinance.

### **Land Use**

The current zoning classification for the South Everett Forest Preserve Trail site is zoned Public Park Zone (P) in the City of Everett. The site is designated as an environmentally sensitive area in recognition of the onsite forested wetland, as well as Silver Lake Creek adjacent to the eastern portion of the site.

The City's Parks and Recreation Department updated the Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan in 2010. The purpose of the proposed parks replacement is fully outlined in the appended Environmental Assessment.

### **Visual Character**

The site is a forested natural area. The proposed use of the site as a passive recreation trails and other uses are consistent with the visual character of the property.

### **Light and Glare**

No light or glare will occur from the proposed project. The Trail would generally only be open during daylight hours. The proposed measure is not to have any lighting and to limit park hours.

### **Recreation**

The project proposal will include formal trails and associated signage when completed. Recreational opportunities will be increased with this project, filling a recreational need for the area.

### **Historic and Cultural Resources**

Utilizing an online search of the Department of Historical Preservation's (DAHP) online search portal (WISAARD,) there are no places, objects, or landmarks of historic or cultural significance that are currently inventoried or known in the immediate area. If any evidence of historic, archaeological, scientific or cultural importance is found during construction, construction would immediately stop and the local Sheriff's office and Washington State DAHP would be notified depending on the resource type.

### **Transportation**

The site is bordered by residential homes and associated backyards on the west, and the Interurban Trail (running north-south) on the east. Forested corridor and stream buffer properties are located to the north, and a PUD substation complex is situated adjacent to the south extent of the site. The South Everett Forest Preserve is intended for neighborhood uses and parking will not be provided.

### **Utilities**

No use or modification or impact to utilities will be necessary.



An improvised boardwalk with wood pallets and boards exist where an informal trail crosses a wetland.



## Master Plan Program Elements

An evaluation of program needs is important to the development of any park master plan. A preliminary list of potential program elements was defined in the 2012 Environmental Assessment for Proposed Sullivan Park Fire Station Conversion (**Appendix D**). This list of potential program elements was advanced in this Master Plan and refined based upon public input and site analysis. The following list was used for design concept development:

- Survey existing trails and significant trees that may be affected.
- Plan new trail alignment in consideration of vegetation and topography to minimize disturbance and to utilize locations of informal trails.
- Locate trails at an appropriate distance away from residential properties.
- Provide a minimum of 1,600 linear feet of trails to meet recreational mitigation requirements.
- Provide trailhead area and neighborhood kiosk for an improved pedestrian connection and orientation to the surrounding neighborhood.
- Provide an ADA accessible trail component with crushed rock surfacing on a flatter area of trail to provide a similar trail experience for the physically challenged.
- Provide benches at visually interesting locations along the trail.
- Retain existing significant trees.
- Remove blackberries at the trailhead to improve visual access from 109th Street SE.
- Identify future vegetation and restoration enhancement opportunities.
- Provide a boardwalk at an existing wetland crossing to minimize wetland disturbance.
- Provide signs to regulate pedestrian use on trails only and to indicate daylight park hours.
- Discourage access from the Interurban Trail.
- Rename the Bruskud Site with a new park name (completed by City Council on June 17, 2015 and renamed: South Everett Forest Preserve)..



Example of a similar trail in the Everett Parks system.

## Alternatives

Alternative trail alignments for the South Everett Forest Preserve were internally evaluated based upon findings of the inventory and analysis, and the program needs for the park. The trail alignments were evaluated based upon the general space requirements and relationships of the proposed park activities, circulation for pedestrian pathways, gradient, vegetation, and neighborhood orientation. The key differences among the alternatives were as follows:

- Trail configurations that extend the trail off-site on the adjacent City of Everett property to the north.
- Trail configurations that may cause more or less disturbance to the wetland or buffer or significant trees.
- Trail configurations that consider other connections.
- Trail configurations moved farther or closer to existing residential homes.



## Park Features

- Create an urban natural open space with passive trail network and provide large areas of unstructured open space for passive enjoyment.
- Provide benches and a picnic area.
- Minimize disturbances to vegetation and topography and utilize alignments of existing informal trails.
- Locate trails an appropriate distance away from existing residential properties.
- The combined trail length shall be 1,600 linear feet to meet recreational mitigation requirements.
- Provide a trailhead feature with a neighborhood kiosk for an improved pedestrian connection and orientation to the surrounding neighborhood.
- Provide an ADA accessible trail loop with crushed rock surfacing on a flatter area of trail to provide a similar trail experience for the physically challenged.
- Provide benches at visually interesting locations along the trail.
- Retain existing trees along the trail alignments.
- Remove invasive Himalayan blackberries at the trailhead to improve visual access from 109th Street SE.
- Provide a boardwalk at the existing wetland crossing to eliminate any new wetland disturbance for a trail crossing.
- Provide signs to regulate pedestrian use on trails only and to indicate daylight park hours.
- Discourage access to the Interurban Trail from the South Everett Forest Preserve site with thicket forming vegetation and woody debris as naturalistic obstructions.



Example of a neighborhood kiosk proposed for the trailhead.



Example of a similar wetland boardwalk in the Everett Parks system.

## Structures

- Kiosk
- Benches
- Wetland boardwalk
- Trash Receptacle

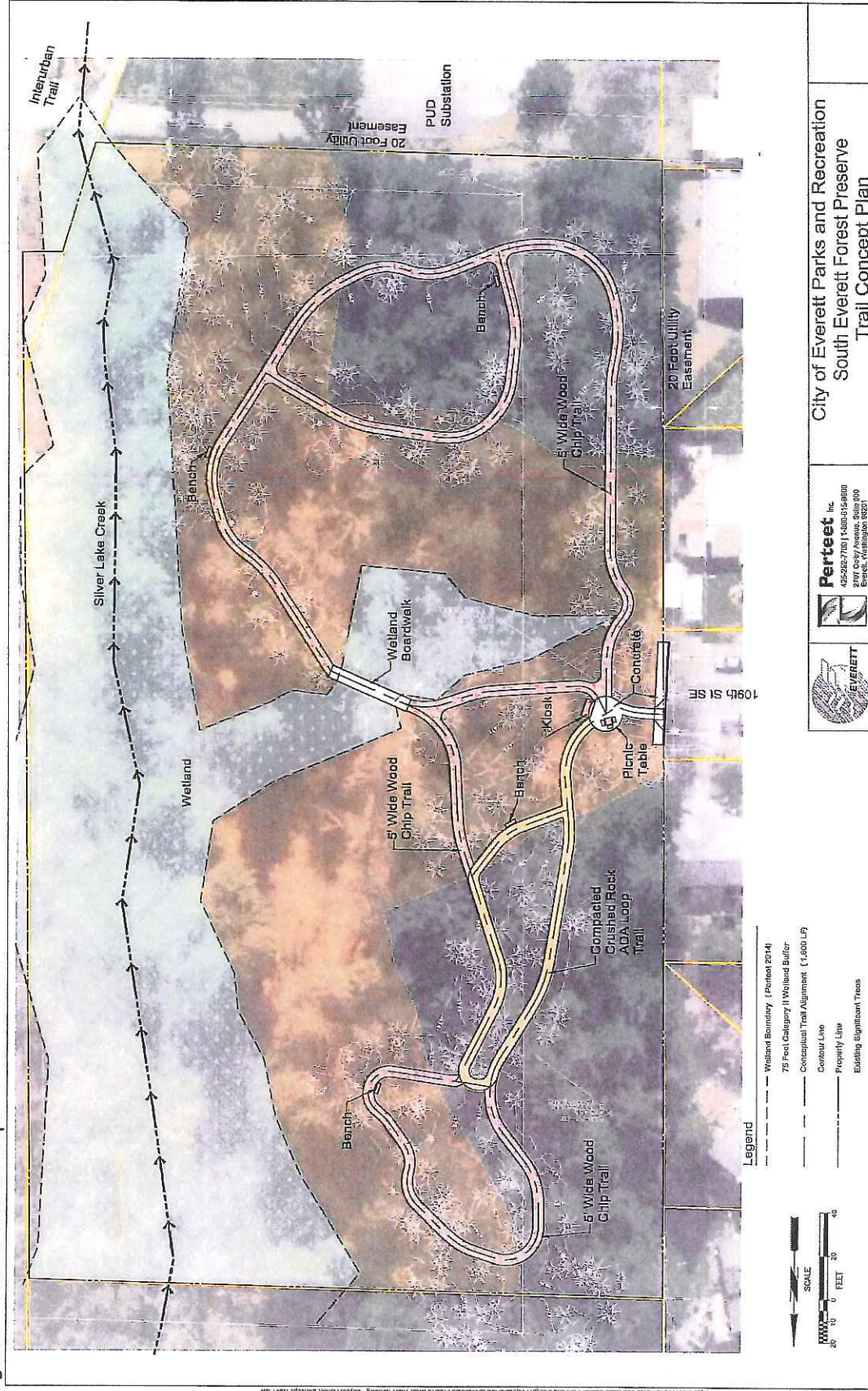
## Phasing

The plan would be implemented in one phase with the opportunity for future phases to address vegetation restoration through other grant and stewardship programs.



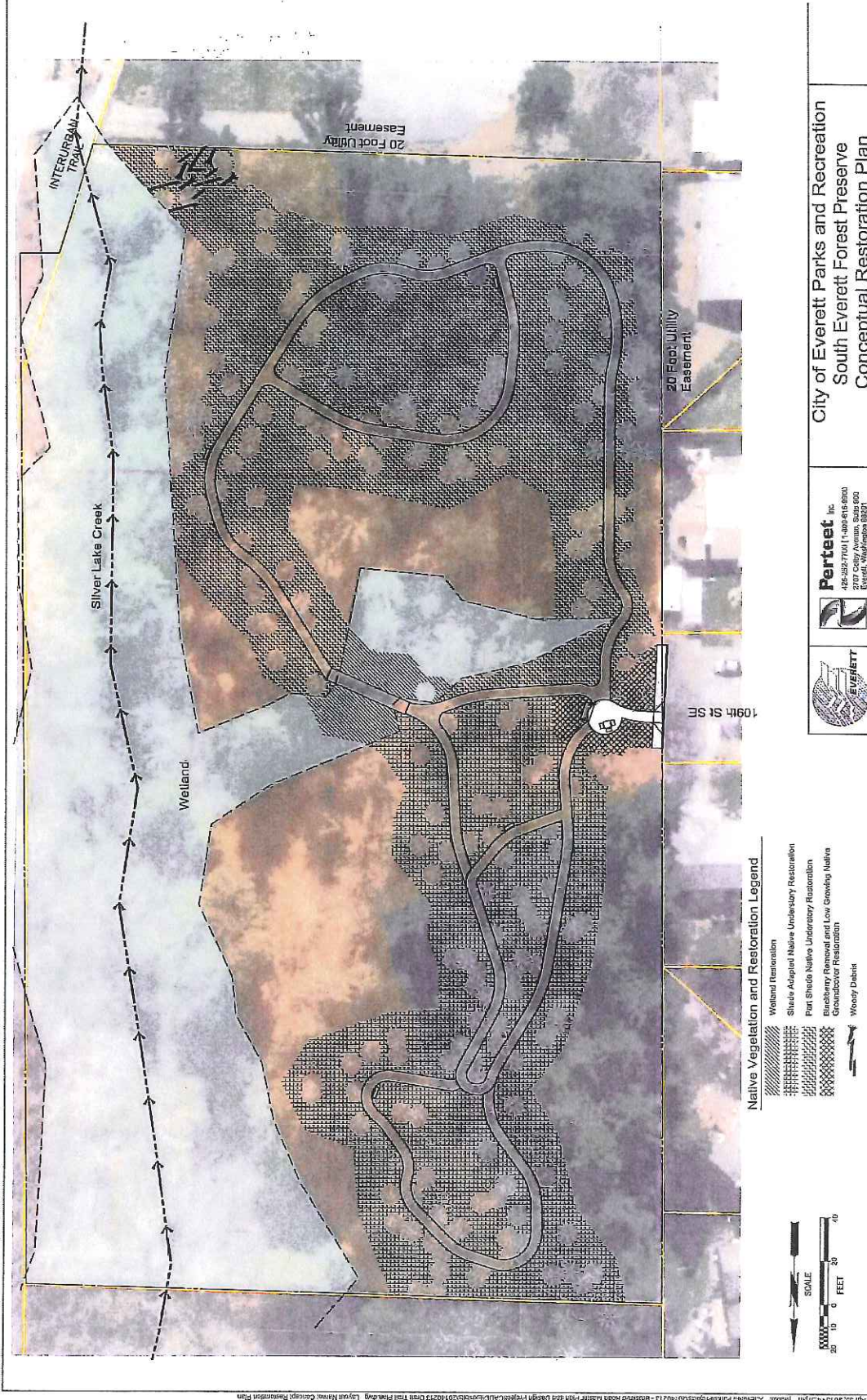


Figure 3 – Master Plan Concept





**Figure 4 – Conceptual Restoration Plan**





Candidate Plant List: Wetland Restoration

Symbol	Scientific Name	Common Name	Wetland Status	Spacing
	<b>Trees</b>			
	<b>Shrubs</b>			
	<b>Groundcovers</b>			

Candidate Plant List: Shade Adapted Native Undersory Restoration

Symbol	Scientific Name	Common Name	Wetland Status	Spacing
	<b>Trees</b>			
	<b>Shrubs</b>			
	<b>Groundcovers</b>			

Candidate Plant List: Blackberry Removal and Low Growing Native Groundcover Restoration

Symbol	Scientific Name	Common Name	Wetland Status	Spacing
	<b>Trees</b>			
	<b>Shrubs</b>			
	<b>Groundcovers</b>			

Candidate Plant List: Part Shade Native Undersory Restoration

Symbol	Scientific Name	Common Name	Wetland Status	Spacing
	<b>Trees</b>			
	<b>Shrubs</b>			
	<b>Groundcovers</b>			

City of Everett Parks and Recreation  
Bruskud Site Draft Master Plan  
Conceptual Restoration Plant Legends



## Public & Staff Response

Public comments associated with the prior Sullivan Park Conversion are summarized in the EIS document (Appendix D). For this Master Plan on the South Everett Forest Preserve, a subsequent public meeting was held by Everett Parks and took place on October 20, 2014, and was attended by several local residents who live nearby or adjacent to the project site. Comments from residents included the following:

- Concern over use of BMX or trail bicycles and damage caused to the property due to the off-road biking, as well as security concerns raised by one resident in favor of bike use at the site, who voluntarily patrols the site on a weekly basis.
- A concern regarding privacy and security was raised, with a resident asking about the planned entrance to the site (from 109th Street) and what width the buffer will be, between the existing residential home backyards and the existing trail.
- An issue with noise buffering was raised, in context of the trees located along the western extent of the site, which act as a buffer to noise experienced from nearby Park & Ride, Interurban Trail, and roadway noise from major and minor routes, including Interstate 5.
- Questions regarding municipal roadway improvements identified concerns over excessive vehicle speed on 9th and 10th, and whether speed bumps would be added. An additional idea to place a roundabout at 109th was presented, which was identified as a potential additional parking compromise as well as facilitating access to Fire and other emergency service vehicles to the cul-de-sac.
- Two questions were presented regarding potential for fencing of the Trail Site, accompanied by rebuttals stating that all prior fencing has been routinely cut or removed. Fencing for the PUD substation's utility easement along the southern extent of the site has also experienced damage.
- One resident stated a preference that the "social trails be blocked," or that the nearby trail network not be connected to the site at all.
- Concerns regarding litter, vandalism, potential illegal activities, and degradation of the property's vegetation and habitat were listed as overall issues.

Additional public meetings occurred on April 7, 2015 and a Park Board meeting occurred on April 14, 2015 to review the Draft Master Plan. Notes and Comments associated with those meetings are included in **Appendix A**. A Parks Board meeting is planned in July, 2015 and a City Council briefing is planned shortly thereafter to complete this document as a Final Master Plan.